

Amendments to the Claims:

Rewrite the claims as set forth below. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A rotary brush manufacturing method comprising the steps of:

projecting, by a specified amount, a wire group formed by assembling together a plurality of wires in a bundle outward through an insert hole provided in a pedestal;

inserting a cone into the center of the projected end of the wire group to push open the wire group in radial directions;

welding a center portion of the wire group in an annular shape with the pushed-open wire group being fixed to the pedestal; [[and]]

cutting the inner side of the annular welded part to form a [[sheet-like]] brush unit having a hub at the center thereof and having a plurality of bristles [[(wires)]] projecting radially from the hub;

making a core pipe be inserted in and hold the hub of the brush unit;

taking [[out]] the brush unit, together with the core pipe, out ~~to the exterior~~ of the pedestal; and

repeating these steps to make a plurality of brush units be held insertingly in the core pipe, thereby forming a [[roll-like]] rotary brush having a plurality of bristles projecting radially.

3. (Currently Amended) The rotary brush manufacturing method according to claim 2, wherein [[the]] tips of the bristles of the rotary brush are trimmed to uniform length and subject to a finishing treatment.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A rotary brush manufacturing device comprising:

a pedestal having an insert hole through which a wire group formed by assembling together a plurality of wires in a bundle is to be passed;

a chuck for grasping the wire group and holding the wire group so that it projects outward from the insert hole of the pedestal by a specified amount;

a cone to be inserted into the center of the projected end of the wire group to push open the wire group in radial directions;

a pressing member for fixing the pushed-open wire group to the pedestal;
a welder for welding a center portion of the wire group in an annular shape with the wire group being fixed to the pedestal;

a cutting machine for cutting the inner side of the wire group while leaving the welded part to form a [[sheet-like]] brush unit having a hub at the center thereof and having a plurality of bristles [[[wires]]] projecting in outwardly radial directions from the hub; and

a pipe handling machine for making a core pipe be inserted in and hold the hub of the brush unit and taking out the brush unit, together with the core pipe, to the exterior of the pedestal.

6. (Original) The rotary brush manufacturing device according to claim 5, further comprising: a cutter for cutting the bristles of the rotary brush to uniform length while rotating the rotary brush; and a finishing machine, which rounds the tips of the bristles.

7-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A roll toothbrush manufacturing method comprising the steps of: projecting, by a specified amount, a wire group formed by assembling together a plurality of wires in a bundle outward through an insert hole provided in a pedestal; inserting a cone into the center of the projected end of the wire group to push open the wire group in radial directions; welding a center portion of the wire group in an annular shape with the pushed-open wire group fixed to the pedestal; cutting the inner side of the annular welded part to form a [[sheet-like]] brush unit having a hub at the center thereof and having a plurality of bristles [[(wires)]] projecting radially from the hub; making a core pipe be inserted in and hold the hub of the brush unit; taking out the brush unit, together with the core pipe, to the exterior of the pedestal; repeating these steps to make the core pipe insertingly hold a plurality of the brush units, thereby forming a roll-like rotary brush with a plurality of bristles projecting radially; and making the rotary brush be supported in a rotatable manner in a handle member.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a brush unit for rotary brush, which is overlaid in plurality to form a rotary brush, comprising:

a first step of projecting, by a specified amount, a wire group formed by assembling together a plurality of wires in a bundle outward through an insert hole provided in a pedestal;

a second step of blowing air into the center of a ~~[[the]]~~ projected side of the wire group to push open the wire group in radial directions;

a third step of welding a center portion of the wire group with the opened wire group being fixed to the pedestal; and

a fourth step of cutting off a central part of the welded center portion.

13. (Original) A device for manufacturing a brush unit for rotary brush, which is overlaid in plurality to form a rotary brush, comprising:

a pedestal having an insert hole through which a wire group formed by assembling together a plurality of wires in a bundle is to be passed;

a chuck for grasping the wire group and holding the wire group so that it projects from the insert hole of the pedestal by a specified amount;

a nozzle for blowing air into the center of the projected end of the wire group to open up the wire group in radial directions;

a pressing member for fixing the opened-up wire group to the pedestal;

a welder for welding a center portion of the wire group with the wire group fixed to the pedestal; and

a cut-off means for cutting off a central part of the welded part welded by the welder.

14. (Original) The brush unit manufacturing device for rotary brush according to claim 13, wherein said chuck is formed of a casing and a cylindrical resilient member positioned in the interior of the casing, and arranged so that the resilient member is expanded or compressed by the supplying or discharge of air into or out from the interior of the casing to grasp or release the wire group that has been inserted into the interior.

15. (Original) The brush unit manufacturing device for rotary brush unit according to claim 13, wherein said nozzle is provided in the interior thereof with an air passage for blowing air into the central part of the projected end of the wire group and has said cut-off means formed on the tip thereof.

16. (Original) The brush unit manufacturing device for rotary brush unit according to claim 13, wherein said nozzle and welder are mounted on a single frame and arranged to be moved in the left/right and up/down directions via this frame.

17. (Original) The brush unit manufacturing device for rotary brush unit according to claim 13, wherein a slide blade for cutting and removing the remaining welded part of the wire group that has been cut by the cut-off means is mounted to said pedestal, and this slide blade is provided with an inclining face for applying a force in the direction in which the remaining welded part of the wire group is extracted from the pedestal.